Explanatory Note: Most of the records concerning the Medieval period found in the various repositories are in Persian, Rajasthani, Marathi, Portuguese, Tamil, etc. Such records are couched in scripts which cannot easily be deciphered and historians have expressed great concern at the fast declining talents in deciphering such scripts. It is, therefore, high time that the concerned authorities should promote teaching of such languages and scripts and provide necessary incentives, if research in our country is to remain record-oriented, and based on original sources.

L. Criterion for Institutional Membership of the Commission

12. Resolution by Shri S.A.I. Tirmizi, Joint Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission:

"Resolved that institutional representation on the Indian Historical Records Commission be generally confined to such institutions as (a) scientifically preserve historical records and throw them open for research, (b) undertake research on and publication of such records and (c) promote and finance historical research based on original sources".

Explanatory Note: In the absence of specific constitutional provision or guidelines, some difficulty has been faced in nominating institutions on the Commission. Some clear criteria are, therefore, desirable for making such nominations on an objective basis. In view of the fact that the Commission, from its very inception, has mainly been concerned with conservation, utilization and publication of historical records in public and private custody, the criteria suggested in the above Resolution appears appropriate, unless the Commission prefers some other criteria.